

FOREIGN OFFICE SPOKESMAN EXPRESSES HIS VIEWS ON  
THE SITUATION IN WHICH JAPAN IS COMPELLED TO  
RESORT TO SELF-PROTECTING MEASURES. (July 27 1947)

I regret to say that on account of the increasingly hostile attitude of the 29th Army, the Japanese military authorities on the spot have been finally forced to abandon their hope for a peaceful settlement. The conditions in the Paiping and Tientsin areas have become as menacing to the lives and property<sup>-ies</sup> of Japanese national as well as to the comparatively small force of the Garrison troops stationed there, that it has now become necessary to commence operations with a view to impress upon the Chinese soldiers the urgent necessity of keeping pledges and agreements which they themselves have made and failed to observe.

All of you are fully aware, I believe, of the Japanese Government's policy of nonaggravation and local settlement of the incident. In spite of the repeated provocative actions of the Chinese armies, our local military authorities, in pursuance of that policy, have hitherto always maintained an attitude of utmost patience and restraint.

On July 9, the Chinese, after pledging withdrawal of their troops from Lukeuchiao, increased their forces there instead, and even went so far as to fire upon the Japanese.

On July 11, the representatives of the 29th Army, Generals Chang Tsuchung and Chang Yungjung, submitted a signed note to the Japanese authorities by which they accepted and promised to execute the 3-point terms of settlement. However, instead of faithfully carrying out these promises, as was expected by the Japanese, the troops of the 29th Army continued to act as if their written pledge were a scrap of paper. A series of armed clashes resulting from Chinese provocations caused considerable casualties on our side. The patience of the Japanese Garrison authorities was thus severely tried and well-nigh exhausted by these continuous Chinese outrages. They therefore notified the Chinese authorities that if such hostilities continued, the Japanese would be compelled to resort to freedom of action in self-defence. This firm attitude seemed for the time being to have impressed the Chinese who signed another agreement on July 19 -- this was made public by the Foreign Office authorities at the time.

With this agreement, we felt quite satisfied that a final settlement on the spot was well in sight. But again the Chinese violated their pledge on the night of July 25 by firing upon our detachment sent to Lang Fang for repairing military telegraph wires which had been cut by the Chinese. No sooner had this affair come to an end, there occurred the

Kuang-an Men affair. The 29th Army has now demonstrated beyond any shadow of a doubt their unreliability.

These reported outrages are nothing but the expression of the fundamental hostile anti-Japanese sentiment of the 29th Army and it can never be removed by peaceful persuasion or remonstrations. The unwarranted firing upon our force by the troops of the 38th Division under Chang Tsuehung, whom the Japanese had regarded as being trustworthy and capable of cooperation, was the last straw.

The circumstances being such, the only thing that can be done effectively by the Japanese to assure the safety of our rights and interests lies in taking firm and decisive measures.

The time limit set in the demand made on the 26th instant by the commander of the local Japanese Garrison regarding the withdrawal of the Chinese troops was due to expire at noon today. However, mere withdrawal of the 37th Division is now deemed wholly insufficient to insure the safety of the Garrison as well as of the lives and properties of our nationals.

As for foreigners in the Peiping area, our authorities have already taken steps necessary for their protection.

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The Japanese Army intends to avoid as far as possible the extension of hostilities to Peiping. The fate of the city depends entirely upon the attitude and action of the Chinese troops there.

C E R T I F I C A T E

Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, HAYASHI, Kaezu, Chief of the Archives Section,  
Japanese Foreign Office, hereby certify that the document  
hereto attached in English consisting of 4 pages and  
entitled "Foreign Office Spokesman expressed his views on the  
Situation in which Japan was compelled to resort to Self-  
protecting Measures. (July 27, 1937)"  
is an exact and true copy of an official document of the  
Japanese Foreign Office

Certified at Tokyo,  
on this 8th day of April 1947.

(signed) K. HAYASHI  
Signature of Official

Witness: (signed) K. URABE

外務省情報部長の發表せる日本をして自衛手段に出でざるを得ざらしめた状況に關する見解（一九三七年七月二十七日）

第二十九車のいや増す強迫的態度のため遺憾ながら現地日本軍當局は遂に平和解決に對する希望を放棄するの止むなきに至つた。北支及天津地區に於ける状況は該地區に駐屯の比較的小勢力の守備隊にとつても又日本住民の生命財産にも非常に脅威を與ふるやうになり、これかため作戦開始が必要となつたが、これは支那兵に彼等自身が誓約又は協定をしなからこれを破つたことを彼等に銘記せしむるためであつた。

諸君は皆日本政府の事件不重大と局地解決の政策をよく知つてゐることと信ずる、中國軍の是次の激發的行動にも拘らず我が地軍當局は前途の政策遂行のためこれまで常に極力忍耐と抑訓の態度を維持した。

七月九日支那側は蘆溝橋よりその軍を撤去すること誓約しながら却つてその兵力を増強し且つ日本軍に對し發砲することさへもした。

七月十一日第廿九車代表張自忠、張允榮は署名せる誓簡を日本當局に渡し、これにより彼等は三條項による解決を實行すべきことを受諾し且つ約束

Def. Case #1112

した。併し日本軍の威嚇に反しこれ等の約束を忠實に遵行せずして却つて第  
九軍は恰も彼等の文書による誓約を一片の紙屑と見做せるが如き行動を  
けた。中國側の激發による威度の武力衝突により日本側は相當の死傷を蒙  
た。かくして日本守備隊當局の忍耐もこれら支那側の強要的不法行為により  
受し、試練を受け遂に殆んど忍ぶべからざるに至つた。それ故日本側は中  
當局でもしかる激發行為が容認されるならば日本側は自由に自衛行動に出  
づるの止むなきに至るべき旨通告した。この所乎なる態度は支那側に一時肝  
銘を與へたらしく七月十九日に支那側は更に契約に署名した。これは當時外  
務省當局が公表した通りである。

この協定により我等は最後の現地解決が有望になつたものとして満足を感じた。併し中國側は七月廿五日またもやその協定を破り中國人により切斷せ  
られた軍用電信修理のため郵坊に派遣された日本軍部隊に對して尋問した。  
この尋問が終るや西安門事件が起つた。第廿九軍は今やその非道責任  
を疑ひの余地なき程に證明した。

これ等屢次の不法行為は第廿九軍の根本的排日反對感情の表現であつて、  
これはいかなる平和的勸告や抗議によるも抜くことの出来ない感情である。

Ref. Doc # 1102

日本側が信頼し協同可能なる人物と見做していた時自思の指揮下にある第三十八師兵によるわが軍に對する不法發砲こそ破氣を來せる最後の一手であつた。

かかる狀勢下に日本側によりその權益の安全を保障するため効果的になされ得る唯一の道は斷乎決定的手段に訴ふることであつた。

本月廿六日に行はれた、中國兵撤退に關する地區日本守備隊より之に附せる期限は本日正午迄であつた。併し第三十七師の戒備のみでは今や日本住民の生命財產は勿論のこと守備隊の安全も保障するには全く不充分と考へられた。

北平地區に於ける外人に關しては我が當局は既にその保護に必要なる手段を講じた。

日本軍は北平に何等かの及ばないやうに盡力努める考へである、同市の運命は全く該地中國軍の態度及び行動如何によるのである。